

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 18, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 17, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 27, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 820

Introduced by Assembly Member Nakanishi
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Cogdill, Garcia, Leslie, and
McCarthy)
(Coauthors: Senators Denham and Poochigian)

February 20, 2003

An act to add Article 2.75 (commencing with Section 127940) to Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 107 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to statewide health planning and development.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 820, as amended, Nakanishi. National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program.

Existing federal and state law contain programs that authorize loan forgiveness to physicians and surgeons, dentists, and individuals enrolled in a postsecondary institution studying medicine or dentistry who agree to practice in medically or dentally underserved areas. Pursuant to existing federal law, one of these programs is the National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program, which is administered at the state level by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

This bill would require the office, in administering the program, to ~~ensure~~ *strive*, whenever ~~possible~~ *feasible*, ~~that to equitably distribute~~ loan repayment awards ~~are distributed equally~~ between urban and rural program sites, after taking into account the availability of health care services in the communities to be served and the number of individuals to be served in each program site. This bill would also require the office to set a reasonable deadline for when all applications are required to be received, and to consider all eligible applications before awarding any grant.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Article 2.75 (commencing with Section
2 127940) is added to Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 107 of the
3 Health and Safety Code, to read:

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5 Article 2.75. National Health Service Corps State Loan
6 Repayment Program

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8 127940. In administering the National Health Service Corps
9 State Loan Repayment Program in accordance with Section
10 254q-1 of Title 42 of the United States Code and related federal
11 regulations, the office shall ~~ensure, whenever possible, that loan~~
12 ~~repayment awards are equally distributed to~~ *strive, whenever*
13 *feasible, to equitably distribute loan repayment awards between*
14 eligible urban and rural program sites, after taking into account the
15 availability of health care services in the communities to be served
16 and the number of individuals to be served in each program site.
17 The office shall set a reasonable deadline for when all applications
18 are required to be received. All eligible applications shall be given
19 consideration before any award is granted.

